

## Message Text

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47

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 AGR-05 SAB-01 NIC-01 NEA-06

/090 W

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R 211724Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2367

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PN, PFOR, YO

SUBJ: PANAMA AND THE NON-ALIGNED GROUP

REF: BELGRADE 5303

1. INDEPENDENTLY-OWNED NEWSPAPERS LA ESTRELLA AND ITS ENGLISH LANGUAGE COUNTERPART STAR & HERALD CARRIED OYNOBER 25 ASSOCIATED PRESS STORY DATE-LINED BELGRADE THAT PANAMA WILL SEEK ADMISSION TO THE NON-ALIGNED GROUP AT THE NEXT SUMMIT MEETING OF THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES. CARLOS PEREZ HERRERA, LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION MEMBER AND CLOSE ADVISOR TO CHIEF OF GOVERNMENT GENERAL OMAR TORRIJOS, MADE THE STATEMENT TO YUGOSLAV NEWS AGENCY TANJUG WHILE ON A VISIT (REFTEL).

2. PEREZ HERRERA REPORTEDLY SAID THAT THE SUPPORT PANAMA RECEIVED FROM THE NON-ALIGNED NATIONS DURING THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON THE CANAL QUESTION WAS ONE OF THE REASONS THAT HAS COMPELLED PANAMA TO SEEK MEMBERSHIP IN THIS GROUP. AFTER CONFLICTING REPORTS OF ITS MEMBERSHIP INTENTIONS, PANAMA ATTENDED THE THIRD NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE IN ALGIERS LAST YEAR AS AN OBSERVER.

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3. COMMENT. EMBASSY SOURCE IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY-AS WELL AS PANAMA'S AMBASSADOR TO U.S. - HAVE PROFESSED TO US NO KNOWLEDGE OF ANY GOP DECISION TO FORMALLY JOIN NON-ALIGNED GROUP. IT IS ALSO SIGNIFICANT, IN THIS REGARD, THAT NONE OF THE GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED NEWSPAPERS CARRIED THE AP REPORT OF PEREZ'S COMMENTS. WHILE THE GOP IS EVER MINDFUL OF NON-ALIGNED GROUP SUPPORT, PANAMA HAS HERETOFORE AVOIDED FULL MEMBERSHIP - AND ITS OBLIGATIONS. THIS ARRANGEMENT OFFERS THE GOP THE BENEFITS WITHOUT THE COMMITMENTS AND, WHILE THERE ARE THOSE WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT - SUCH AS PEREZ HERRERA - WHO ADVOCATE FORMAL TIES, WE JUDGE THAT TORRIJOS HAS MADE NO FORMAL DECISION.  
GONZALEZ

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NONALIGNED NATIONS, MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 NOV 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CollinP0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION ARA  
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**Reference:** BELGRADE 5303  
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**Review Authority:** CollinP0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 03 JUL 2002  
**Review Event:**  
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**Review History:** RELEASED <03 JUL 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <21 MAR 2003 by CollinP0>  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
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